

The Southeast News

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

VOLUME VII, NUMBER 5

MARCH 1959

More Than Two-Hundred Young People Attend Southeast Convention PF - YF



PEGGY HAMMOCK

The Fifth Annual Southeast Convention Pilgrim Fellowship and the First Annual PF - YF of The United Church of Christ— was held at the Lanett Congregational Christian Church, Lanett, Ala., on February 28 - March 1, 1959. Registration began at 8:30 on Saturday, with approximately two hundred young people and advisors present, representing thirty-three churches in Georgia, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Northwest Florida. The Convention was officially called to order at 10:30 by the acting president, Melvyn Roquemore, and the Convention opened with the singing of the Conference hymn, "God of Grace and God of Glory." The keynote address was given by the Reverend Harrison McMains, Executive Director of the Atlanta Christian Council.

The highlight of the Convention was the semi-formal banquet held at the



REV. ARNOLD SLATER
and MR. KEITH BAUDER

Lanett High School Cafeteria. The theme of the banquet was Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska, and the Middle East.

The Convention opened Sunday with the election of officers for the next year. They are: President, Peggy Hammock, Langdale, Ala.; Vice-president, Wayne Graves, Andalusia, Ala.; Corresponding Secretary, Julia Slagle, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Recording Secretary, Lindianne Roberson, LaGrange, Ga.; Treasurer, Peter Sanford, Atlanta, Ga.; Faith Commission Chairman, Mary Emma Thompson, Pleasant Hill, Tenn.; Action Commission Chairman, Ann Turner, Birmingham, Ala.; Fellowship Commission Chairman, Suzanne Warren, Charleston, S. C.

Morning worship was led by Rev. John Schofield, host pastor, and the sermon was delivered by Rev. Harold Henderson, pastor of Daisy-Soddy Parish, Tenn.

The Convention officially closed Sunday afternoon with the installation of the new officers and communion service conducted by Rev. Carroll Lewis, pastor of the Langdale Congregational Christian Church.

Southeast Regional Elects Arnold Slater President

Rev. Arnold Slater, pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Chattanooga, was elected president of the Southeast Regional Meeting of Congregational Christian Churches at its biennial meeting February 24-25.

The Reverend Mr. Slater succeeds Mr. Keith Bauder, a layman of Winter Park, Florida, who presided over the sessions.

The Reverend Carl E. Wallace, pastor of the Church of the Wide Fellowship, Southern Pines, N. C., was elected vice-president. Supt. James H. Lightbourne Jr. was voted to the position of secretary-treasurer.

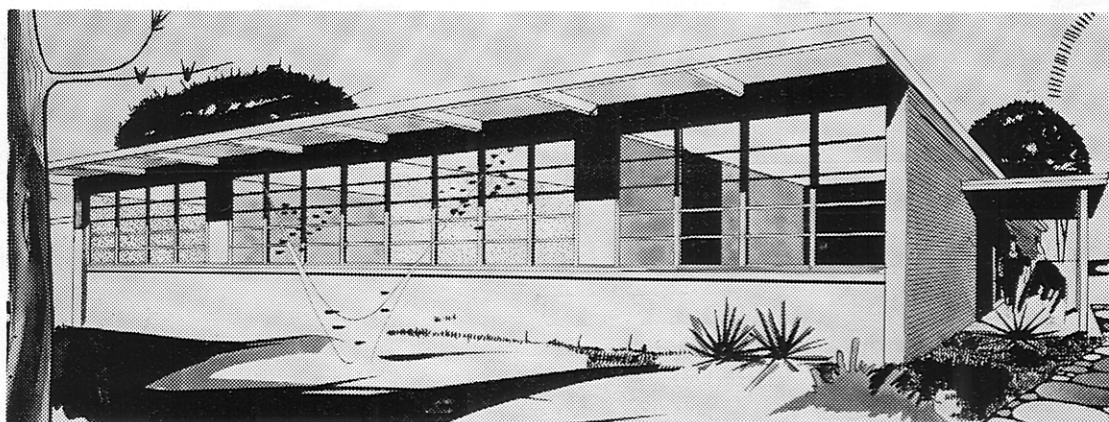
The biennial sessions of the group were held at Franklinton Center, Bricks, N. C., on Tuesday and Wednesday, February 24-25.

Moderator and Mrs. Ray E. Phillips were in attendance at the meeting. On Tuesday afternoon Dr. Phillips addressed the gathering on the general subject of "Our Christian World Mission", with special emphasis on our overseas work. Dr. and Mrs. Phillips served in Africa under the American Board for many years.

Reverend John F. McClelland, pastor of the church at Silver Spring, Maryland, and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Home Missions, presented "Our Christian World Mission", with special attention to work in the homeland, on Wednesday.

Two panel discussions, moderated by Superintendent Robbins Ralph of the Florida Conference, were held on the general subject of "Our Christian World Mission". Participating on the panels were Dr. and Mrs. Phillips, Rev. Mr. McClelland, Mrs. John A. Wallberg, a member of the Board of Directors of the Board of Home Missions, and the superintendents. The essential theme was the "oneness" of our mission.

People . . . Churches . . . Events . . .



Pictured above is the new educational building under construction at the Brookmeade United Church, Nashville, Tenn. The building will include classrooms and offices. The Brookmeade Church was a project of the Church Builders Club.

Blackwood Church Reports Progress

In January the Blackwood Church conducted a very successful Every Member Canvass. The pastor, Rev. Ralph Worley, prepared the workers with a week's training session. The canvassers were:

J. R. Brackin, Joe Brackin Jr., M. E. Rister, Rayburn Kennedy, Stevetta Green, and Mrs. Bobbie Brackin.

The third Sunday of March we will begin having a Third Sunday Night Worship Service. This gives a total of five services each month.

We are landscaping the church and community grounds this spring.

Miss Stevetta Green is appointed editor of a monthly Blackwood News Letter to be distributed to members and mailed to those away from home.

Mr. and Mrs. Rayburn Kennedy are the proud parents of Phillip Dewayne, who arrived February 4th.

Newly elected officers and chairmen of standing committees of 1959 are:

Deacons: M. O. Johnson, M. E. Rister
Trustees: Mack Kennedy, A. A. Danford, J. R. Brackin

Clerk: Mrs. Leonard Faisin

Treasurer of Local Funds: Mrs. M. R. Hicks

Treasurer of Benevolent Funds: Miss Dora Brackin

Superintendent of Sunday School: M. E. Rister

Pianist: Mrs. H. C. Chancey

Chorister: A. T. Brackin

Huguley Church Educational Building Nearing Completion And Ready For Use

The Huguley Church is making much progress. The building program has helped to increase the interest; our new educational building is nearing completion; we have seven Sunday School rooms upstairs already completed on the interior, painted, and floors sanded and waxed. They are large and roomy. In the basement we have a kitchen, rest rooms and large fellowship hall. We are very proud of this new addition to our building. The Sunday school enrollment has increased since moving into the new rooms. The Women's Sunday school class sponsored a dinner at the church on February 15th. The dinner was served family-style on large tables; everyone helped themselves to all they wanted and gave the ladies \$1.00 for each plate. Proceeds will go toward helping finish the church kitchen in the basement. Already, there

have been several donations for the kitchen, including a stove, hot water heater, refrigerator and lots of dishes and towels. Most of the work on this building has been done by our church men. We are fortunate in having in our church men who have the ability to do carpenter work, electric wiring, and plumbing. The men work after they get off from work and at night. We are hoping to complete this new building in the near future and so far we have been able to raise the money among ourselves and pay as we go. We are not in debt, and this we are very proud of.

Mrs. Myrtle Langley was received into the church as a new member in February, and the pastor has already received the letters of transfer of Mrs. Dannie Lee and Mrs. Annie Smith. They will be received into the church soon. They come to us from First Church in Andalusia, but live here in the Valley now.

We are sorry to report that our pastor's wife, Mrs. Carrie Lee Nelson, has been in the hospital, very ill with a ruptured ulcer. The church people are praying for her recovery.

Evangelism and Visitation Committee: Mrs. T. E. Kennedy, Chairman

Community Needs Committee: Mrs. M. O. Johnson, Chairman

Worship Committee: Stevetta Green, Chairman

Publicity and Advertising Committee: Mrs. Randall Danford, Chairman

Religious Education Committee: Rayburn Kennedy, Chairman

Social and Recreation Committee: Mrs. Shelby Hodges, Chairman

Rev. Frank Laubach, Congregational Christian missionary since 1915 and now missionary to the world at large, will speak at the Langdale, Ala., gymnasium April 2 through April 6.

Women's Fellowships To Hold Spring Rallies

SPRING RALLIES WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIPS

SPEAKER: Mrs. Ray Phillips, missionary to Africa and wife of the Moderator of the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches.

DATES: March 31 - April 14.

THE SCHEDULE:

KENTUCKY - TENNESSEE

Tuesday, March 31, 10:30 A. M. - 3:00 P. M., Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

NORTH ALABAMA

Thursday, April 2, 10:00 A. M. - 3:00 P. M. Place to be announced.

SOUTH ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA

Saturday, April 4, 10:00 - 2:30 P. M. Antioch Church, Andalusia, Ala.

EAST ALABAMA

Sunday, April 5, 3:00 - 6:00 P. M. New Hope Church, Roanoke, Ala.

CENTRAL ALABAMA

Monday, April 6, 4:00 - 9:00 P. M. Mt. Olive Church, Tallassee, Ala.

SOUTH GEORGIA

Wednesday, April 8, 10:00 - 3:00. Williams Chapel, Waycross, Ga.

CENTRAL GEORGIA

Saturday, April 11, 10:00 - 3:00 P. M. Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, Ga. (Was Chipley, Ga.)

NORTH GEORGIA

Monday, April 13, 5:00 - 8:00 P. M. Central Church, Atlanta, Ga.

DATES TO REMEMBER

March 21 — N. Georgia Association, Oxford, Sardis, 10:00 a. m.

April 10-11 — Southern Union College Board of Trustees

April 18 - 19 — Southeast Convention Annual Meeting, East Tallassee, Alabama

May 5-7 — Ministers' Convocation, Southern Union College

June 7-13 — Kentucky-Tennessee Summer Conference, Camp Pomona

June 12 — Kentucky-Tennessee Women's Retreat, Camp Pomona

June 16 — Southeast Convention Board of Directors

June 14-27 — Work Camp at S. U. College

June 28 - July 11 — Work Camp at Franklinton Center, Bricks, N. C.

July 5-8 — General Synod, United Church of Christ, Oberlin College, Ohio

July 18 - 19 — Georgia-South Carolina Women's Retreat, Perry, Ga.

July 26-August 1 — Alabama - N. W.

East Tallassee PF Observes Youth Week

The following notice appeared in the Tallassee, Ala., newspaper January 22, 1959:

"Whereas the United Christian Youth Movement has designated the week of January 25 to February 1 as Youth Week; and whereas the Pilgrim Fellowship of East Tallassee Congregational Christian Church is observing this week; and

"Whereas Youth Week is designated to point out the part young people play in the life of the church and the church's responsibility toward its young people, and give youth an opportunity to make a Christian witness through cooperative action and through their faith to help strengthen the unity of Christian youth across all America and to help enrich the lives of all mankind without regard for racial, creedal, cultural and national barriers; and

"Whereas the 1959 Youth Week theme, 'Dare We Live in the Household of God,' is set forth to make young people throughout the world, as well as here in our own city, conscious of their place and responsibility in the life of the church, and to remind them of the need of continuing to grow increasingly as leaders in the church;

"Therefore, I, R. C. Billings, mayor of the City of Tallassee, State of Alabama, proclaim the week of January 25 to February 1 as Youth Week, and urge our citizens to acknowledge the outstanding contribution made by the youth of our nation and to assist in every possible way the promotion of this youth program."

R. C. Billings,
Mayor of Tallassee, Ala.

Pilgrim Fellowship Girls of the East Tallassee Congregational Christian Church who watched Mayor Billings sign the proclamation were:

Janice Ballard, Marie Pemberton, Pat Scroggins, Deanna Cullars, Becky Gooden, Lou Ann Cantrell, Barbara Fralic.

The Pilgrim Fellowship was to be in charge of the entire program at their church January 25th.

Florida Summer Conference, S. U. College

August 14-15 — Alabama-N. W. Florida Women's Retreat, S. U. College

August 16-22 — Georgia - South Carolina Summer Conference, Roosevelt State Park



South Georgia Rally For Pilgrim Fellowship

A Rally of the South Georgia Pilgrim Fellowship was held at Ambrose Church January 18, 1959. The meeting was called to order by the president, Boyd James.

Devotion was given by Betty Jean Langdale of Enigma Church. Following devotion, Janice Tucker read an appropriate poem.

The first article on the agenda was the report from the Nominating Committee. Officers nominated and approved by the floor are:

President, Boyd James, Pearson, Ga.; Vice-President, Joyce Thomas, Waycross, Ga.; Secretary, Hazel Kirkland, Wray, Ga.; Treasurer, Tony Hand, Douglas, Ga.; Reporter, Verno Belle Harris, Enigma, Ga.

The Rev. Miss Annie Campbell was guest speaker and discussed plans for summer camp and other planned workshops for Spring. She urged every person who could to attend the Southeast Convention PF at Lanett, Ala., Feb. 28, March 1, 1959. Miss Campbell led several songs and get - acquainted games.

Our next Rally was set for March at Union Hill Church.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE NOTES

Church attendance in the United States reached a record high during 1958, it was announced by Religion in American Life. It is reported on the basis of a Gallup Poll that 50,500,000 American adults attended church or synagogue services during an average week. This figure represents 49% of the total adult civilian population in the country.

Worship attendance was highest in the Midwest — 54 per cent of all adults — than in the East, South, or Far West.

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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STAFF

Rev. Jas. H. Lightbourne, Jr. Editor
Rev. Annie Campbell Photographer
Mrs. Jettie Logan Promotion

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Superintendent's Corner

Occasionally the question is raised, "Do our churches observe Lent?" A companion question is, "Do our churches observe Holy Week?"

I do not have enough information at hand to answer these questions in any detailed way. The indications are that the majority of our churches do not observe Lent in any significant way. At the same time, there is evidence of increasing observance of Holy Week.

This latter is a healthy sign. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, which marks the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Many churches have services throughout the week that are centered around the activities of Jesus on each day of the last week of his life leading to the crucifixion.

Thursday is the time for the observance of the Last Supper. Many churches receive new members at this service. Friday is, of course, Good Friday—the day of the crucifixion.

Then follows the celebration of glorious Easter Sunday with all of its message of reconciliation and triumph.

It is a spiritual experience of tremendous depth for a church to observe Holy Week.

Superintendent's Schedule

March 21 — North Georgia Association
March 24 or 25 — Nominating Committee of Southeast Convention, Atlanta

April 1 — Pleasant Hill, Tenn.

April 10 - 11 — Southern Union College Board of Trustees, Wadley,

SOUTHEAST CONVENTION BUDGET, 1959

DISBURSEMENTS

Administration		
Staff Salaries	\$11,700.00	
Annuity Payments	1,089.00	
Staff Rent	600.00	
Part-time Help	250.00	
Group Insurance	100.00	
		\$13,739.00
Office		
Rent	500.00	
Telephone and Telegraph	400.00	
Furniture and Equipment	150.00	
Insurance	75.00	
Social Security	67.50	
		1,192.50
Organization		
Board of Directors, Committees, Fellowships, and Convocations	1,500.00	
		1,500.00
Promotion		
Supplies and Materials	1,100.00	
Southeast News	1,200.00	
		2,300.00
Travel		
Superintendent — General	2,000.00	
Auto Payments	871.92	
Minister Christian Education	2,000.00	
Special Travel Fund	350.00	
		5,221.92
Parsonage		
Principal on Loan	1,000.00	
Interest on Loan	250.00	
Insurance and Maintenance (plus \$250.00 carried forward from '58)	400.00	
Utilities (heat)	300.00	
		1,950.00
Miscellaneous		
Audit	200.00	
Southeast Regional Meeting	150.00	
Miscellaneous	300.00	
		650.00
Church Aid and Mission Work	9,000.00	9,000.00
National Boards and Agencies	7,000.00	7,000.00
Contingency Fund	599.85	599.85
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		\$43,153.27

RECEIPTS

Board of Home Missions	\$14,833.27
Our Christian World Mission from Churches	28,000.00
Southeast News Subscriptions	320.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$43,153.27

Ala.
April 16 — Georgia Council of Churches Board of Directors, Atlanta
April 18-19 — Southeast Convention Annual Meeting, East Tallassee, Alabama

Rev. Leila W. Anderson, the "Pilgrim Circuit Rider" of our Congregational Christian Fellowship, is working in our area for several weeks. During her stay she will visit churches in Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee.

Service Of Installation

For Rev. W. M. McCullars

A Service of Installation for the Reverend W. M. McCullars as pastor of the Oak Grove Congregational Christian Church, Oak Grove, was held on Sunday, Jan. 25, 1959, at 3:00 P. M.

Prior to accepting the ministry of the Oak Grove Church the Rev. Mr. McCullars was the pastor of the Hunt Memorial Congregational Christian Church of Alexander City, Ala.

Participating in the service were the Rev. Roy Chatham, pastor of the Hillside Congregational Christian Church LaGrange; the Rev. Raymond Berry, pastor of the United Congregational Christian Church, LaGrange; the Rev. Charles Bell, pastor of the Lowell Congregational Christian Church, Roanoke, Ala.; the Rev. Samuel D. Nelson, pastor of the Fredonia Church in Barnesville; and the Rev. James H. Lightbourne, Jr., superintendent of the Southeast Convention.

The Rev. Carl Landes served the church as interim pastor during the time it was without a minister. He is chaplain of the Southern Union College at Wadley, Ala.

The Rev. Mr. McCullars is a young minister who has been in the ministry four years. He is married and he and Mrs. McCullars have one daughter, Susan, who is six years old and is in the first grade of Rosemont Elementary School.

The Legend Of The Dogwood Tree

At the time of the Crucifixion, the dogwood tree was as large and strong as the oak, and was chosen as the timber for the Cross.

To be used for this purpose distressed the tree, and Jesus, in His pity, promised: "Never again shall you grow large enough to be used for a cross. Henceforth the dogwood tree shall be slender and twisted; its blossoms in the form of a cross . . . two long and two short petals. At the edge of each petal there shall be nail prints; in the center of the flower a Crown of Thorns. And this tree shall be cherished as a reminder of My Cross."

So it has been, and the springtime flowering of the dogwood has remained a symbol of Divine Sacrifice and the triumph of Eternal Life.

Our World In Miniature

HENRY SMITH LEIPER

If in imagination we compress the present population of the world, now over two and a half billion, into a group of a thousand persons living in a single town, the following is the picture of contrasts we would then vividly see:

Sixty persons would represent the U. S. population; all others would be represented by 940. The 60 Americans would have half the total income of the entire town; the 940 would share the other half.

Thirty-six of the Americans in the town would be Christian Church members; and 24 would not. In the town as a whole, about 300 would be Christians and 700 would not. At least 80 persons in the whole town would be believing Communists and 370 would be under Communist domination. Possibly 70 in the whole town would be Protestant Christians.

Three hundred and three persons in the whole town would be white; 697 would be non-white. The 60 Americans would have an average life expectancy of 70 years; all the other 940 would average under 40.

The Americans would have 15½ times as much per person as all the rest on an average. They would produce 16 per cent of the town's total food supply, eat up all but 1½% of that total supply and keep most of it for their future use in expensive storage equipment. When it is remembered that most of the 940 non-Americans in the town would always be hungry and never know quite when they get enough to eat, the situation created by this disparity in food supply and the existence of vast reserves becomes fairly apparent, particularly in view of the fact that the Americans already eat 72 per cent above the optimum food requirements. They could actually save money by giving away excess food because of the cost of storing it; but they think that would be a dangerous "give-away program of soft-headed do gooders."

The 60 Americans would have of the town's total supply, 12 times as much electric power as all the rest; 22 times as much coal; 21 times as much petroleum; 50 times as much steel, and 50 times as much in general equipment.

Literally most of the non-American people in the town would be poor, hungry, sick and ignorant. Almost half would not be able to read or write.

More than half would never have

Echoes From Southern Union

Southern Union Day was observed in many high schools in Alabama and Georgia on Thursday, February 12, when practically all of the faculty members and many of the students fanned out across the two states and told the story of Southern Union.

The high school principals, teachers and students, especially the seniors in the 1959 graduating classes, have been most cooperative and hospitable in hearing about Southern Union and asking questions about the college.

Rev. and Mrs. Clarence McCall of Chicago were the leaders for the 1959 period of Christian Interpretations.

Rev. McCall, a graduate of Berea College and Chicago Theological Seminary (Mrs. McCall is also a graduate, and it is there that they met!), after serving several pastures in South Dakota and Oregon, is now the Associate Superintendent of the Congregational Christian Churches of Illinois.

The BISONs, rounding out a very good season of basketball, under the coaching of Nofflet Williams, were defeated in the regional tournament at Marion by Hiawasse by one point, the score being 67 to 66. They were ahead 66 to 65 just ten seconds before the game ended.

All of us at Southern Union are grateful to the Southeast Convention News and its editor, Rev. James H. Lightbourne Jr., for the fine publicity and coverage given in the February issue. Truly, it was a great issue, one of the very best we have seen.

Did you get your issue of the Southern Union News? The last issue announced the plans to add 8 rooms to Pilgrim Hall, the girl's new dormitory, which is already too small. Contributions of all sizes will be appreciated, the present total of nearly one thousand dollars being made up of lots of gifts of \$5 each. You can furnish a room in memory of a loved one for \$350.00. Please write today.

— Walter A. Graham, President

heard of Christ or what he stood for. But very soon more than half would be hearing about Karl Marx.

In view of these facts, it is interesting to think that the average Christian American family would be spending \$850 a year for defense in force, and less than \$3.50 a year to share with the rest of the town the knowledge of why there is any Christmas.



Installation of Rev. H. H. Melloy
(front left)

Rev. H. H. Melloy Installed In Phenix City

The Rev. Howard H. Melloy was installed as Pastor and Minister of the First Congregational Christian Church, Phenix City, Alabama, at a service held on Sunday night, February 15th.

Mr. Melloy was recently called to the church to succeed Rev. John Crutcher, who accepted a pastorate in Illinois. Prior to coming to Phenix City, Mr. Melloy had been serving a Methodist charge in Indiana.

Participating in the service were Mr. Cody Allen, chairman of the Board of Deacons; Rev. Rudolph Starling, pastor of Hunt Memorial Church, Alexander City, and a former member of the church; Rev. John D. Schofield, pastor of the Lanett church; Rev. A. C. Nelson, Moderator of the East Alabama Association; Rev. Olin Sheppard, chairman of the East Association Committee on the Ministry; Rev. D. Herbert Long, pastor of the Russell Woods Church; and Supt. James H. Lightbourne Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Melloy and one of their children, a teen-age son, are now at home in the parsonage. Of interest is the fact that the Melloyes and the Schofields were close friends in Indiana.

Special services will be conducted at the United Church, LaGrange, Ga., during the week of March 15th by Rev. Samuel D. Nelson, pastor of Fredonia Church, Barnesville, and a son of the LaGrange church.

Convention Annual Sessions Slated April 18-19, 1959

The Seventh Annual Sessions of the Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches will be held on April 18-19 at the Liberty Congregational Christian Church, East Tallassee, Ala.

The sessions will begin on Saturday morning at 10:30 a. m. (CST) and will end on Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Arnold Slater of Chattanooga, Tenn., former president of the Women's Fellowship of the Convention and first woman Moderator of the Convention will preside over the meeting which will attract delegates from 119 churches in six states.

Dr. Earl H. Ballou, Executive Secretary of the Congregational Christian Service Committee, will deliver the keynote address on Saturday afternoon and preach the sermon at the Sunday morning service. The Service Committee is involved in relief and rehabilitation work around the world.

Rev. Frederick A. Meyer, regional Director of the Christian Higher Education Fund of the Congregational Christian Churches, will address the delegates on this effort of the denomination to raise seven and one-half million dollars for the work of Christian Higher Education in this country and in the overseas missions.

Both the Women's Fellowship and the Churchmen's Fellowship will hold banquets on Saturday night of the sessions. National Director William E. Peterson, of the Laymen's Fellowship, will be present for the Churchmen's Fellowship Banquet.

Rev. Carl J. Landes of the faculty of The Southern Union College, is serving the host church as interim pastor. In the past two years the church has renovated its auditorium and added a modern educational unit to its facilities.

During the sessions reports will be heard from the various standing committees of the convention as well as from the staff and the officers.

Dr. Walter A. Graham, president of The Southern Union College, will be on the program.

Letters will go soon to each of the churches requesting that delegates be elected and their registrations sent to



Installation of Rev. Herbert Long
(front left)

Service Of Installation For David Herbert Long

A Service of Installation for Rev. David Herbert Long was held at the Russell Woods Congregational Christian Church, Phenix City, on Sunday afternoon, February 15.

The Russell Woods Church has been in existence for less than two years and this marks the first time it has had a minister giving full time to the work of the church. Rev. R. N. Rumph, a member of the church, has been serving as pastor.

The father of the newly installed minister, Rev. N. A. Long, participated in the service. Also taking part were Rev. R. N. Rumph; Rev. Sanford Wood, pastor United Church, Columbus; Rev. H. H. Melloy, pastor First Church, Phenix City; Rev. Alfred Peacock, First Church, Columbus; Rev. Peter Doherty, pastor, Richland; Rev. Raymond Berry, pastor United Church, LaGrange; and Rev. James H. Lightbourne Jr., Supt. of the Southeast Convention.

the host church. Each church is entitled to three delegates plus one additional for each 100 members or major fraction thereof over 100. All ministers in regular standing are delegates.